

Amendments to the Specification

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I. Please replace paragraph [0003] with redacted paragraph [0003] below.

[0003] A ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah has a bowl or base which is filled with fluid. The base has an opening at the top fitted for a plenum, which is part of a ~~stemp~~ stem. The ~~stemp~~ stem may be a tube conveying smoke from a burner on top to a passage through the plenum, and then through a tube at the bottom of the plenum in to the fluid filling the base. The smoke is let out underneath the surface of the fluid and allowed to bubble up through the fluid to the surface, absorbing moisture as it does. A second passage through the plenum the plenum conveys the now-moistened smoke out of the base to a hose. A smoker smokes the ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah by drawing smoke through the hose.

II. Please replace paragraph [0004] with redacted paragraph [0004] below.

[0004] The base of a ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah may be made of glass, such as crystal. The plenum and ~~stemp~~ stem may be made of metal. There may be an interference fit between the plenum and the base to retain the plenum in the base. A smoker who wishes to move the ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah may grasp the ~~stemp~~ stem and pick up the ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah. An interference fit between the metal and glass may be inadequate to support the weight of the base, particularly if the base is relatively full of fluid. The base may consequently fall off while the ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah is being carried, possibly sustaining damage.

III. Please replace paragraph [0005] with redacted paragraph [0005] below.

[0005] ~~Stemps~~ stems are often formed of one piece. Since a ~~stemp~~ stem may be relatively long, a one-piece ~~stemp~~ stem may be difficult to clean. The down tube, which runs downward from the plenum to the fluid, may become fouled relatively quickly, since the down tube is in a hot, corrosive, acidic environment formed by the smoke mixing with the fluid in the base. The down tube may be so fouled as to be corroded or

occluded. A ~~stemp~~ stem with a corroded or occluded down tube may be difficult to smoke. The entire ~~stemp~~ stem may have to be thrown away when the down tube has become corroded or occluded.

IV. Please replace paragraph [0006] with redacted paragraph [0006] below.

[0006] ~~Stemps~~ Stems formed of more than one piece may be fitted together with interference fits as well. The interference fits may be secured by wrapping the male component with cloth or masking tape before insertion in the female part. Cloth or masking tape may degrade relatively quickly, however, in the ~~smokey~~ smoky environment.

V. Please replace paragraph [0014] with redacted paragraph [0014] below.

[0014] Since a base may fall off a ~~stemp~~ stem while a ~~hubble-bubble~~ hookah is being carried by the ~~stemp~~ stem, it would be desirable if the base could fastened securely to the ~~stemp~~ stem. Since a one-piece ~~stemp~~ stem may be difficult to clean, it would be desirable for the ~~stemp~~ stem to be formed of several individual components. Since the down tube of a ~~stemp~~ stem may become corroded or occluded by the atmosphere in the base, it would be desirable for the down tube to be replaceable.

VI. Please replace paragraph [0019] with redacted paragraph [0019] below.

[0019] In one embodiment, axes 182 and 184 are co-axial. In another embodiment, axes 182 and 184 are skewed relative to each other. This may be the case if modular smoking apparatus 100 is curved. Furthermore, intermediate tube 110 itself may be curved, and axis 184 may be an axis local to lower end 176 or upper end 172. In one embodiment, burner 112, intermediate tube 110, and plenum 102 comprise a ~~stemp~~ stem.

VII. Please replace paragraph [0032] with redacted paragraph [0032] below.

[0032] In a third embodiment, also shown in Figs. 3 and 4, modular smoking apparatus 200 may include a cover 262 disposed substantially co-axially with axis 284 of intermediate tube 210 around intermediate tube 210. In this embodiment, burner 212, intermediate tube 210, cover 262, and plenum 202 comprise a ~~stemp~~ stem.